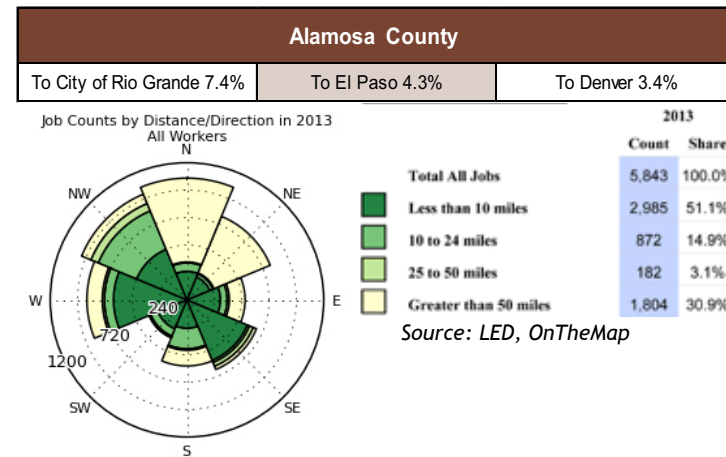
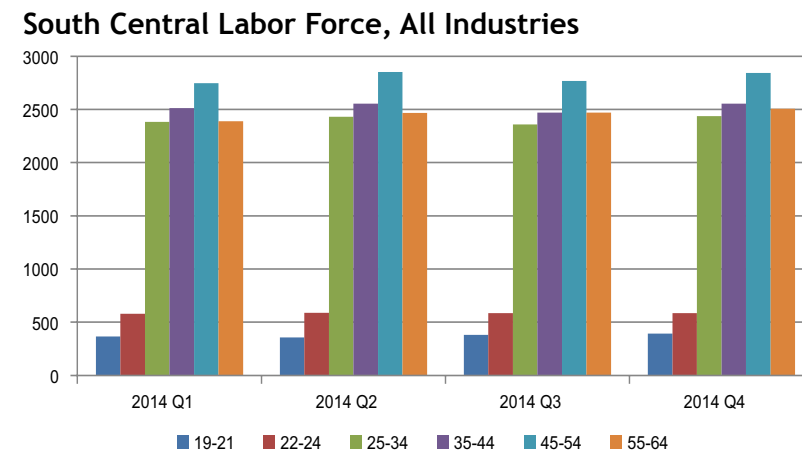


## Local Employment Dynamics

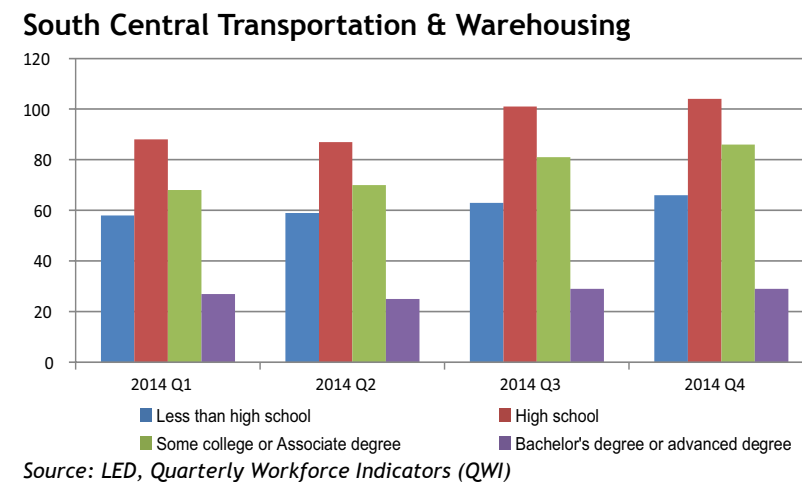


The majority of workers living in Alamosa County, the region's largest, also work within the county. More workers commute from outside the county than leave the county to work elsewhere.

Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) data provide a great deal on information on the characteristics of a region's workforce. This graph reviews workforce age distribution, showing the region's largest age group as 45 - 54 within a fairly well balanced workforce.



Another application of QWI data looks at educational attainment. If a job seeker is interested in transportation jobs, this data demonstrates that most of the current workforce in that industry have at least a high school education; many have some college or a bachelor's degree. These data are based on the area's workforce, age 25 and older.



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Labor Market Information  
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## South Central Workforce Region Labor Market Information

Labor Market Information (LMI) in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment collects and analyzes information about labor market trends throughout Colorado. Data are presented in a variety of ways: industry employment and wages, current and projected industry and occupation levels, occupational wages, and labor force employment and wages. LMI conducts various research projects and assists workforce centers and others with customized regional information requests.

Colorado was the 2nd fastest growing State between 2010 and 2015, with a population of 5,456,574. Colorado also outpaced the nation in employment growth by a wide margin.

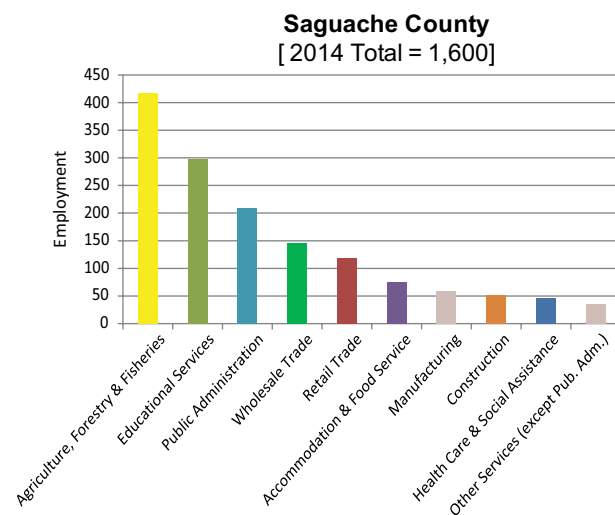
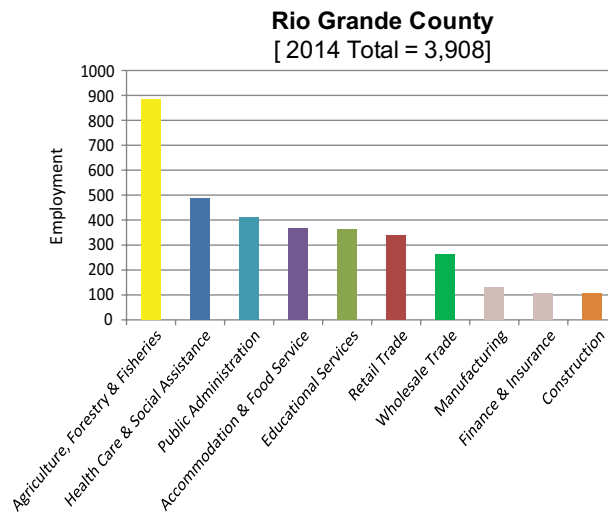
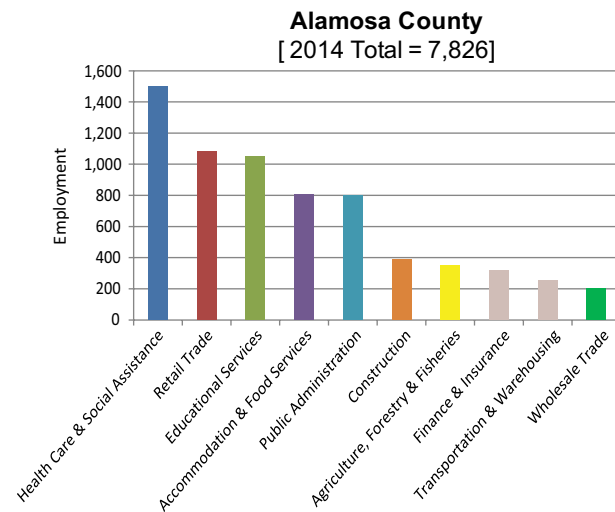
| Area              | 2014 Population | 2010-2014 Population Change | QCEW 2014 Employment | QCEW Employment Growth 2013-14 | November 2015 unemployment Rate* |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| State of Colorado | 5,355,866       | 6.5%                        | 2,417,769            | 3.5%                           | 3.5%                             |
| Alamosa           | 16,177          | 4.7%                        | 7,508                | 0.7%                           | 4.5%                             |
| Conejos           | 8,265           | 0.1%                        | 1,402                | 2.5%                           | 5.2%                             |
| Costilla          | 3,568           | 1.2%                        | 800                  | -0.1%                          | 5.5%                             |
| Mineral           | 698             | -2.0%                       | 493                  | 0.8%                           | 4.2%                             |
| Rio Grande        | 11,607          | -3.1%                       | 3,925                | -2.2%                          | 5.0%                             |
| Saguache          | 6,196           | 1.4%                        | 1,555                | 0.7%                           | 5.0%                             |

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) & Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS); Colorado State Demography Office. \* Unemployment Rate is Not Seasonally Adjusted.

None of the counties in this workforce region had population growth as strong as the statewide average. Mineral and Rio Grande Counties actually lost population in the period since the 2010 Census. Alamosa County had the strongest population growth among the counties in the sub-region. In terms of annual job growth from 2013 - 2014, Conejos had the greatest percent growth; Rio Grande County experienced job loss. The region as a whole had flat job growth, adding a net of only 12 wage and salary jobs. Not surprisingly, unemployment rates exceeded the statewide average in November 2015, with Costilla County showing the highest unemployment rate.

# Industries

## South Central Workforce Counties Top Ten Industry Sectors by Employment



Conejos, Costilla and Mineral counties have small wage & salary employment totals, so most industry sectors' data are confidential.

### Top 3 sectors in Conejos County

- Educational Services
- Public Administration
- Health Care & Social Assistance

### Top 3 sectors in Costilla County

- Agriculture
- Health Care & Social Assistance
- Accommodation & Food Services

### Top 3 sectors in Mineral County

- Accommodation & Food Services
- Arts, Entertainment & Recreation
- Retail Trade

Note the colors applied to several of the County industries. The same industry is often seen across all of the counties in this Region.

Source: LMI - 2014 QCEW Annual Data.

# Location Quotients

Measures the concentration of an industry's employment in a specified area versus the reference area of the State of Colorado as a whole. Data are from 2014.

| Alamosa      |      |
|--------------|------|
| Utilities    | 3.74 |
| Retail Trade | 1.52 |

| Rio Grande                        |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries | 42.95 |
| Utilities                         | 5.39  |

Source: LMI Gateway Location Quotient Calculator.

# Local Economic Comparisons

## Wages, Income and Cost of Living Comparison

| Area              | Average Weekly Wage | Per capita personal income | Cost of Living |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| State of Colorado | \$1,014             | \$48,869                   | 100.0          |
| Alamosa           | \$664               | \$33,250                   | 92.3           |
| Conejos           | \$568               | \$29,402                   | 85.3           |
| Costilla          | \$513               | \$28,725                   | 88.7           |
| Mineral           | \$534               | \$52,974                   | 98.2           |
| Rio Grande        | \$608               | \$37,721                   | 92.3           |
| Saguache          | \$570               | \$29,745                   | 88.3           |

Sources

Average Weekly Wage: 2014 QCEW

Per capita Personal Income: U.S.

Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Cost of Living: Colorado Legislative Council

Cost of Living Index.

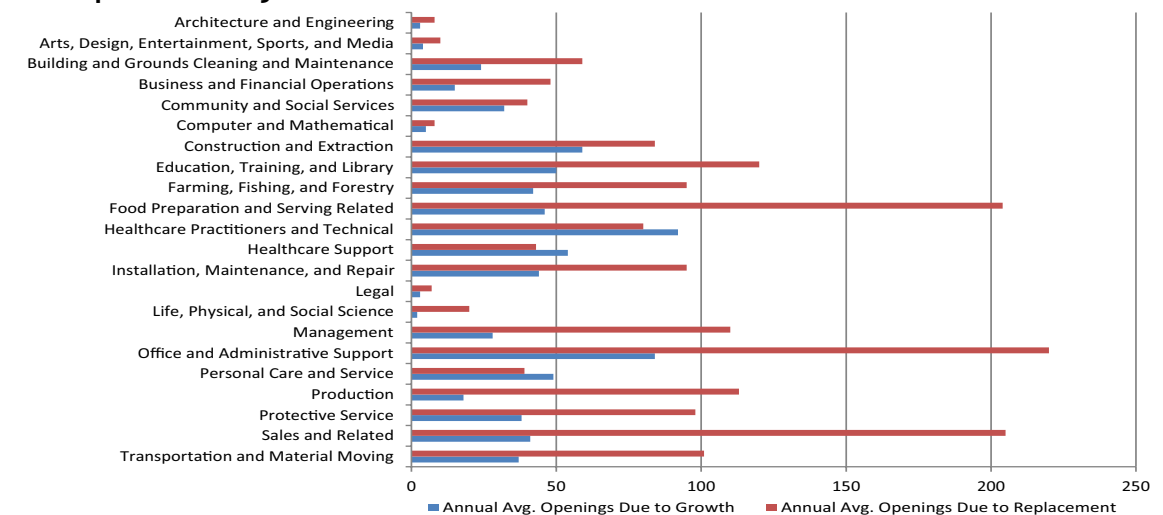
# South Central Occupations

## Fastest Growing Occupation Groups and 2014 Wages - Eastern Colorado

| Occupation Title                     | Employment | Average Hourly Wage | Average Annual Wage | Annual Percent Change 2014-2024 |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Healthcare Practitioners & Technical | 3,480      | \$31.01             | \$64,501            | 2.18%                           |
| Healthcare Support                   | 2,080      | \$12.42             | \$25,829            | 2.17%                           |
| Personal Care & Service              | 1,950      | \$10.97             | \$22,823            | 1.85%                           |
| Community & Social Services          | 1,690      | \$18.59             | \$38,657            | 1.69%                           |
| Construction & Extraction            | 3,930      | \$18.76             | \$39,025            | 1.25%                           |
| Farming, Fishing & Forestry          | 980        | \$12.29             | \$25,555            | 1.17%                           |
| Protective Service                   | 3,020      | \$18.97             | \$39,466            | 1.14%                           |
| Computer & Mathematical              | 460        | \$31.07             | \$64,623            | 1.00%                           |
| Building & Grounds Maintenance       | 2,330      | \$11.75             | \$24,449            | 0.79%                           |
| Transportation & Material Moving     | 4,210      | \$14.82             | \$30,832            | 0.76%                           |

Source: LMI - Occupational Employment Projections.

## Occupational Projections: Thru 2024



Source: LMI - Occupational Employment Projections.